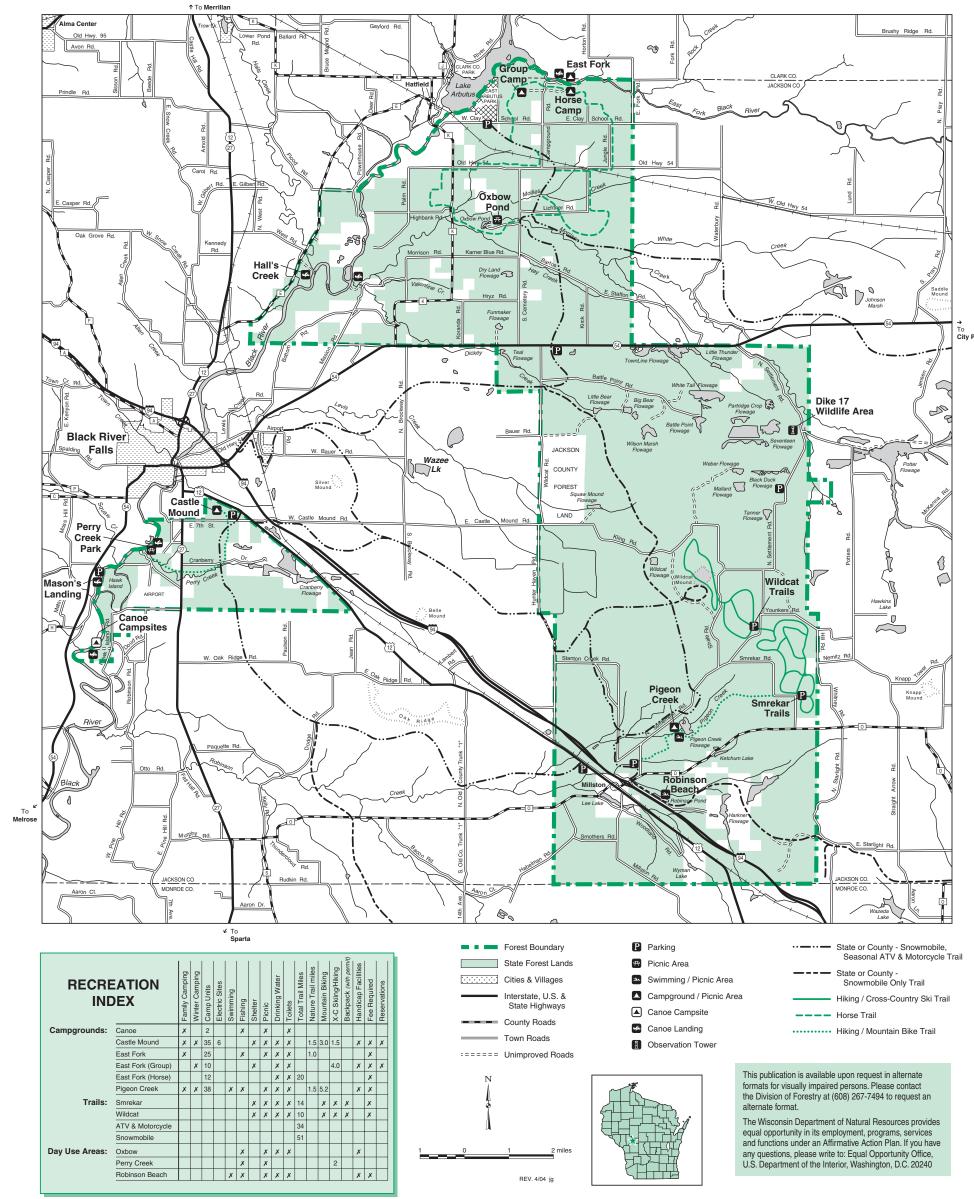
Black River State Forest Visitor

Black River State Forest



Wild Turkeys in the Forest

The first release of wild turkeys in Jackson County was made in 1984 on the South Beaver Creek Wildlife Area. The first release of wild turkeys in the Zone 14 portion of Jackson County, which includes the Black River State Forest, was made in 1989. The first spring and fall hunts in Zone 14 occurred in 1990 and 1992 respectively. Since introduction, the turkey population has increased dramatically in Zone 14. In the spring season, 1995, 382 gobblers

were harvested in Zone 14. 130 birds were harvested in the 1995 fall season. In the spring season, 2003, 686 gobblers were harvested in zone 14. The 2003 fall season resulted in a harvest of 227 turkeys. We can expect to see the wild turkey on the Black River State Forest as a permanent indigenous resident as long as present favorable forest management practices continue.

Our Concern

The safety of forest visitors is a priority so please be careful at all times and please impress safety precautions on your children. Following are some precautions to keep in mind.

Swimming—Swim safely. Swim at a designated beach where available. None of the Forest beaches have lifeguards. Don't swim alone, at night, or in unfamiliar places. Use caution when wading in unknown waters, as water depth may change abruptly. Closely watch small children near the water.

—Your Safety

Hiking—Hike safely. Be aware that trails vary in difficulty. Not all trails are surfaced. There may be steep climbs, descents, or stairways. Watch small children closely. Trail surfaces can become slippery when wet or covered by leaves and pine needles, or where there is loose gravel.

Plants—Never eat berries or plant parts unless you are certain of their identity.

If you injure yourself or become ill, report to the public contact station.

